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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC General Military Information

25X1A

EVALUATION 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED [redacted]

DATE OF CONTENT 16 to 18 March 1953

DATE OBTAINED [redacted] DATE PREPARED 15 April 1953

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE [redacted]

1. On 16 March 1953, 12 field grade officers with black-bordered red epaulets, and 13 field grade officers with red-bordered black epaulets, including 5 colonels, were observed at the officers' club in the former Stadtsaele in St. Poelten (0 49/W 88). Four artillery pieces with muzzle brake, 5 trucks and a field kitchen were seen in the garages west of the former Kreisgericht. Jeep [redacted] and truck [redacted] were observed in the yard of the Franz Josef Kaserne. The barrier at the Franz Josef Kaserne was guarded by a sentry with black-bordered black epaulets. Trucks [redacted] driven by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, and truck [redacted] with a driver wearing black-bordered red epaulets, passed the barrier.

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2. On 16 March, 2 T-34 tanks, 4 half-track vehicles and 8 trucks were parked at Camp Spratzern, south of St. Poelten (0 49/W 88). Ten groups of about 10 EM each were engaged in close-order drill without rifles. About 30 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets did rifle firing practice at the range south of the installation. Vehicles observed included: truck [redacted] driven by a soldier with black-bordered red epaulets; and trucks [redacted]

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- 2 -



engaged in rifle drill. Trucks [redacted] driven by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets were seen at the installation.

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[redacted] Comment. The reports from St. Poelten, Camp Spratzern, Korneuburg and Stockerau confirm the previous occupation. The little activity observed at the Albrechts Kaserne in Korneuburg indicates that contingents of the 23rd AAA Div left Korneuburg for firing practices. [redacted]

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